



APRIL HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

By: Lorraine Drain Date: January 18, 2005

**PATENT
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of: :
Kiyoshi Masaki *et al.* :
Conf. No.: 9898 : Group Art Unit: 2652
Appln. No.: 10/718,119 : Examiner: Brian E. Miller
Filing Date: November 19, 2003 : Attorney Docket No.: 8861-385U1
Title: DISK DRIVE APPARATUS : (P16995-05)

AMENDMENT

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed September 15, 2004 (Mail Date 20040914). This response is being timely submitted in view of the simultaneous submission of a one-month Petition for Extension of Time to and including January 18, 2005 (January 15 being a Saturday, January 16 being a Sunday, and January 17 being a holiday), including payment of fees.

In response to the Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listings of the claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.